ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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EASTERN

F.O. 371

1947

PALESTINE

FILE No. 84

p 10490 - 10968

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61852

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[10:90] 2

1947

PALESTINE

Registry
Number | E10490/84/31

FROM
E0 Morales

No. Panamaniah

Dated

Received | Ca-3-5-3

Pan york and Pan Enercent he for prencent letter (E 9814/84/81) Has now received reply from his Good, who inform that they have placed the whole matter wroter the responsibility of the bourse heroral of Panama in New York, where both this were requisived.

Last Paper.

10450

in Registry

References. E.10196/84/31.

(Print.)

61852

(How disposed of.)

Tel) washing for 11743 Nov. 13.

Rotal) C.G. hew York 258

8) 9.9.P. on E10680 [84/3] Nov. 15 (Minutes.)

Attent tel. to Washington JBMV. 10

Further tel. JB MV. 13

(Action completed.)

Next Paper.

10493

32003 F.O.P

LEGACION DE PANAMA

London, 6th October, 1947

10 NOV

No. CL-553 EAM

Dear Mr. Beith.

In my letter No. C-1147 of 6th October I mentioned to you that I was sending to my Government a copy of your letter No. E 9159/84/31 IMMEDIATE/CONFIDENTIAL.

I have now received a reply from my Government in which they inform me that they have placed the whole matter under the responsability of the Consul General of Panama in New York where both the "PAN YORK" and "PANCRESCENT" were registered.

The Consul will thoroughly investigate the responsability of the directors, agents and solicitors of the "F & B Shipping Company" in connection with the illegal traffic of Jewish Immigrants to Palestine and I have every reason to believe that the information supplied by the Foreign Office will greatly assist the said official.

Since I spoke to you on the telephone this morning, I have been further advised by the Government that the representatives in Panama of "F.& B Shipping Company" had been requested to refute the suspicions raised by the Foreign Office. Unless they were able to do so, the "Patentes Provionales" of the two vessels would not be extended, and furthermore, the "Patentes Permanentes" still in the custody of the Government would not be delivered.

As the "Patentes Provisionales" usually expire six months after registration of the vessels, this means that they will soon expire. Unless the charges made by the British Government are proved to be wrong - and in view of the evidence I cannot see how this can be done in time, or even ever - the vessels will automatically be struck off from the Panamanian registry.

Perhaps you will be good enough to pass on this information to the Secretary of State.

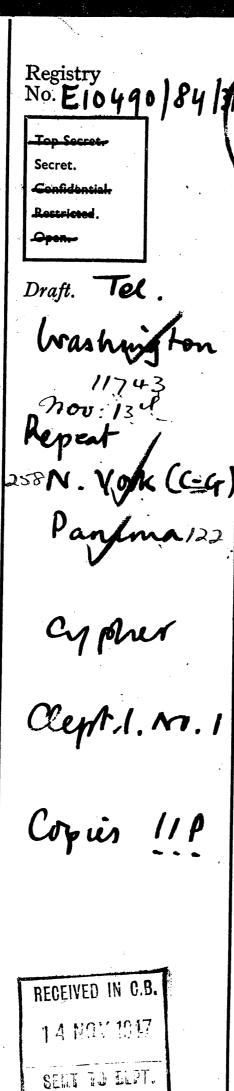
Yours sincerely

Eusebio A. Morales Charge deffaires

J.G.S. Beith, Esq., Foreign Office, S.W.1

5 6 Reference: **FO** 371/61852

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IMPIRTANT SECRET My tel. No. 11510 [of Mr. 6: Lewish illegal immigration] Panaman Coronl-Cren. Anggests that provisional patents" of Pan York and Pan Croscent ", which usually run for six montes, Should shortly expire " men and would not now

2. Can you let us have

be renewed.

an wegent estimate of the prospects of canceaning registration of these Ships with farhalar reference to date on Which this might become effective?

Brov. 13

HING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

eference:

224 /24072

E10490/84/31 Sypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO WASHINGTON

No. 11743 13th November, 1947

D: 2.35 a.m. 14th November, 1947

Repeated to: New York No. 258

Panama No. 122

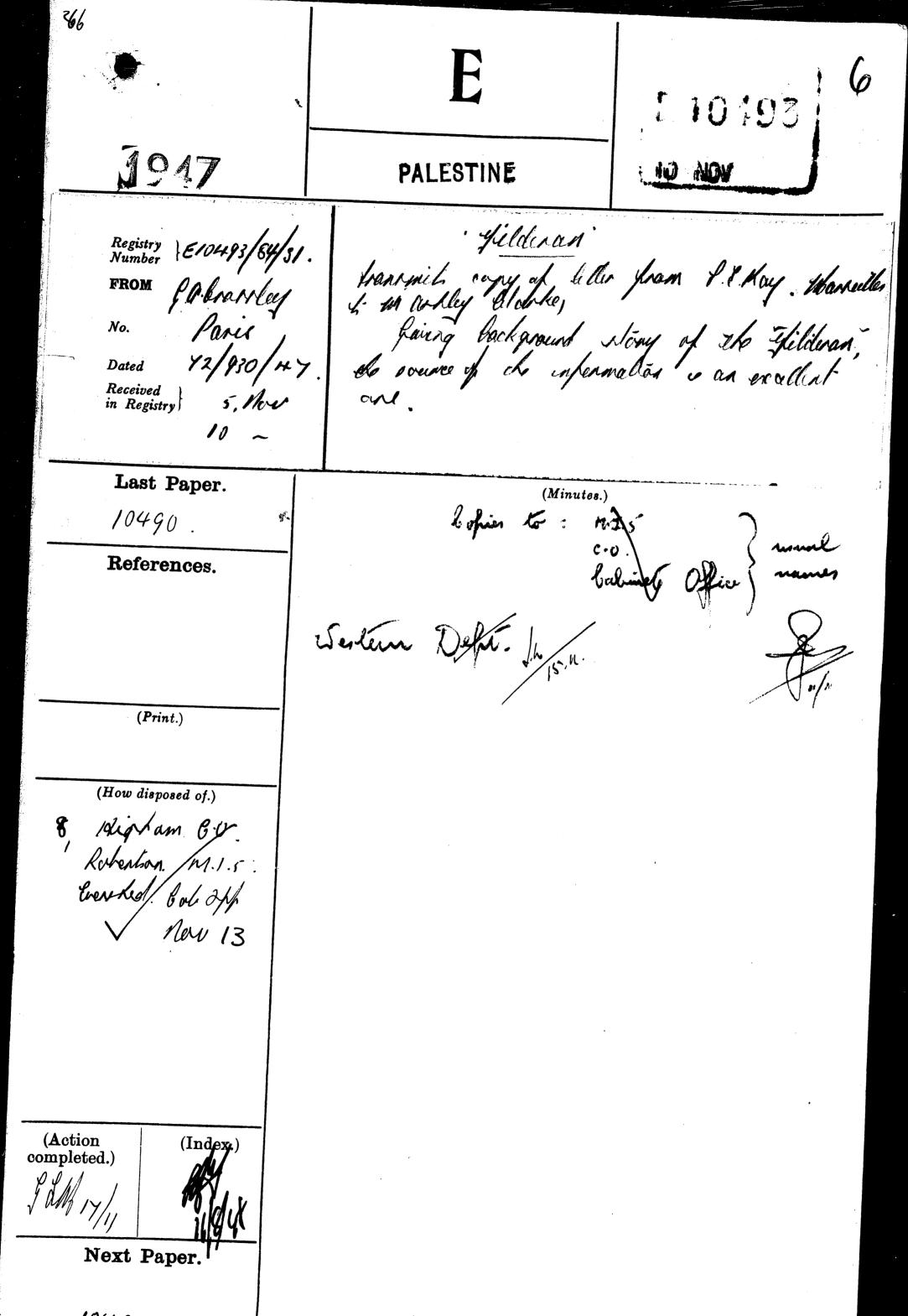
IMPORTANT SECRET

My telegram No. 11510 [of November 6th: Jewish illegal immigration].

Panamanian Consul-General suggests that "provisional patents" of "Pan York" and Pan Crescent" which usually visa for six months, should shortly expire and would not new be renewed.

2. Can you let us have an urgent estimate of the prospects of cancelling registration of these ships with particular reference to date on which this might become effective ?

G G G G



* 5 6 Reference: FO 371/61852

32003 F.O.P

BRITISH EMPASSY, PARIS.

5. 11. 1947.

72/930/47

10 NOV

With the Compliments
of His Majesty's Embassy.
hr. G. Grosley

Lastern Department, Foreign Office. FO 371/6185

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Prition Committee Care mi,

With actober, 1947.

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nore that your head agreed to poil the pass afternoon, but become nore that your nervous about the passal business as takenous orlared very temporal terms and a present for the Japanin. It appears that they asked threather that the Thistory asked interpretating operating cocaling, and finally these as interference in appears that also had no passengers on board. The cutor of the this of the thistory and the transfer that the had no passengers on board. The cutor of the this had the passengers on board. The cutor of the this and the transfer and that the would be rered by the first that the passengers and the this would be rered by the first the opens, but the same and the unwilling to do so (which sears to indicate that the point though or any experiment to you, the motor of the This to be paint though be of indeated to you, the motor of the This to being your to one itself on board the "Care, the to being your persons back to have a large the "Care, the to being your persons back to have the passent to prove the one of the passent to have a large the passent to be a large that the being your persons back to have a large the "Care, the to being your persons back to have a large the passent to be had to have the passent to the passent to have a large the passent to be a large that the being your persons back to have a large the passent to be a large to the passent to be a large to the passent to be a large the passent to be a large the passent to be a

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to pass it to the foreign office and the attitude.

omre coor,

H. FEMILET Clarks Log.C.M.C.,
Melcech Chocor,

[10497

PALESTINE

LID NOV

Allegal formegrant this. Registry £10497/84/31 Number versel (Irlintily Unknown) of suyornine inhanked TELEGRAM FROM a ship boat 50-100 June on hidreday night Mr. 6. Lefer intervention of police with land brought agrical. 300 to 400 other book to algues for equalion to their home - herino and Morocco. Y Mov in Registry (Minutes.) Last Paper. 10493 In P.P. algier til 102 References. mr taru form. w Now me & 10608 (Print.) In P.P. C.C Med 0 9/039 9/11 (How disposed of.) 8, 9.9. P. (on E10,809/84/34)

(Action completed.)	(Incl.	d)
Next	Paper.	, ,	

10498

Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.P.

Code R

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM ALGIERS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

His Majesty's Consul General, D. 4.00 p.m. 7th November,

1947.

No.101 7th November, 1947.

R. 7.40 p.m. 7th November, 1947.

Repeated to Tunis No.19, Commander-in-Chief Mediterraneam.

Vessel (identity unknown) off Guyotville embarked in ship's boat [gp.undec.? "50"] to 100 Jews on Wednesday night, November 6th, before intervention of police who have brought 300 to 400 others back to Algiers for expulsion to their home in Tunisia and Moroccol

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

QQQ

Code R

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM ALGIERS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

His Majesty's Consul General,

D. 5.30 p.m. 7th November. 1947.

No.102 7th November, 1947.

R. 6.56 p.m. 7th November,

1947.

Repeated to Tunis, Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean.

My telegram No.101.

Vessel was Giovanni Maria. 80 Jews embarked 600 [gp.undec. ? prevented].

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

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SECRET

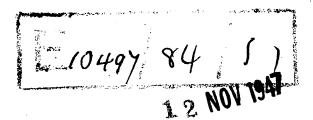
WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad:

"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

Prud.

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MUEXED

091039A/November.

Date 9.11.47.

Rocd, 1102,

SECRETEX

Addressed Admiralty D.N.I. Info. N.A. Paris.

From C. in C. Med.

IMPORTANT

R.O. Algiers reported 7th November that Number 272 GIOVANNI MARIA embarked 80 Jews off Guyotville five miles west of Algiers, on the night of 6th, 600 Jews awaiting embarkation were dispersed by police.

0910391.

Advance copies sent D.C. - R.C.

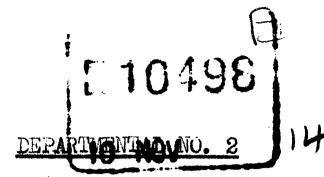
lst Lord.
lst S.L.(3).
V.C.N.S.
...C.N.S.
Naval Secretary.
Secretary.
U.S.S.
O.D.(8).

D.C.(2).
M.(8).
D.N.I.(5).
D. of P.(2).
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C.N.I.(2).

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	PALESTINE	13
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No. Lequeigaljia	April Regeneral at den 40 regentration of the 2 L	ankers a question.
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1408 1408 1/04,13		
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(Action (Index.) completed.)		
Next Paper.		
E 10523	Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.P.	

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Cypher/OTP

FROM TEGUCIGALPA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Fewler

D. 4.15 p.m. 8th Nevember, 1947

No. 37 8th Nevember, 1947.

R. 12.20 a.m. 9th Nevember, 1947

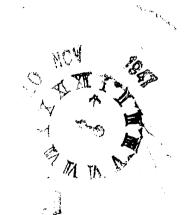
My telegram Ne. 35.

Minister for Foreign Affairs telegraphed on Nevember 6th to the Henduranean Consul General at New York authorising provisional registration of the 2 tankers in question.

Please repeat to Washington as my telegram Ne. 5.

[Repeated to Washington].

0000



[10523]

HII NOV JIS

PALESTINE

Registry F10523/84/31.

FROM LA Fallman

No. US Embatty

Dated Lill Reven

Received in Registry) 8, 1/cv

Aligal Summyrant Skips.

After 6 10190/84/11) Transpile list of liligram
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Last Paper.

10498

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(How disposed of.)

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6 man Everyhed. Seds Off

Nov. 22

Delt, M. Gallman

4. S. Earlary

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(Action completed.)

(Index)

Next Paper.

E 10583

(Minutes.)

Copy Co. (M. J. Smith)

Cat. Obrigs (Contr. Evershed)

See also E 10232/84/31

Throther evidence that the

User are now trying much

horder to help over illegal

immigration - probably because

then want us to stay in

Palestine for me a while

J35-Beins MV.12 (BEITH)

BASISminon,

W.A. 20 / ..

32003 F.O.P

128/11

SECRET

1. 10523 11 30 16

1 Grosvenor Square, London, W. 1. November 8, 1947.

Dear Mr. Bevin:

With reference to the aide-memoire on the SS Pan Crescent and Pan York, which you handed Ambassador Douglas on October 30, the Department of State has just telegraphed us as follows:

"Reference is made to the aide-memoire of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated October 30, 1947 with regard to the activities of the SS Pan Crescent and Pan York, which according to the aide-memoire are vessels registered under the flag of Panama now present at Constanza. The Foreign Secretary has likewise invited attention to the possibility that the Colonel Frederick C. Johnson, now lying at Norfolk, Virginia, may be destined for the same traffic.

The Department of State has undertaken immediate investigation of the status of these vessels. This investigation however is not complete and the following comments provide merely an interim answer reflecting the concern which the Government of the United States shares with the Government of the United Kingdom over the activities of vessels engaged in the clandestine emigrant traffic to Palestine. Meanwhile armed cutters of the United States Coast Guard have the Colonel Frederick C. Johnson under twenty-four hour surveillance at Norfolk and all possible steps are being taken to prevent the sailing of this vessel.

For the most confidential information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs it can be revealed that officers of the Department of State have discussed this problem as a matter of urgency with authorized representatives of the Jewish Agency in New York City. With specific reference to the SS Pan Crescent, Pan York, and Colonel Frederick Johnson an authorized representative of the Jewish Agency has informed the Department of State that the Jewish Agency has no information about prospective sailings either from Atlantic ports or ports in Black

/Sea

The Right Honorable Ernest Bevin, M.P., Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, The Foreign Office, Whitehall, S.W.l. COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Reference: TO 371 61852

SECRET

Sea during next five or six weeks. The representative of the Jewish Agency added that the agency would do everything within its power to prevent further incidents but indicated that the agency did not have complete control of the Jewish underground.

The agency requested any precise information available as to prospective sailings in order that it might use its maximum influence to prevent incidents. The Department's representative stated that it expected the Jewish Agency to exert itself to the utmost to see that the underground is restrained.

Furthermore the Secretary of State has in person called in Jewish leaders and informed them with the greatest possible emphasis that unless immediate and effective steps were taken to stop this clandestine activity he would have no other recourse but to treat the matter publicly."

Sincerely,

Freeman

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61852

Dear M Grunan, - wank you tor your letter of NW. P giving me the substance of a telegram you had received from the State Dept. about Certain Ships engaged in the Iwish Wegal uning rant trathe Palestine.

for this prompt reply

I am groteful

described.

parhadar for the

Yours sincerely

(59d.) Ernest Bevin

18th November, 1947.

No. E 10523/84/31

SECRET

Dear Mr. Gallman,

Thank you for your letter of 8th November giving me the substance of a telegram you had received from the State Department about certain ships engaged in the Jewish illegal immigrant traffic to Palestine.

I am grateful for this prompt reply to my enquiries and in particular for the action which the United States authorities have taken in regard to the "Colonel Frederick C. Johnson". I have noted that Mr. Marshall has personally raised the general question of Jewish illegal immigration with Jewish leaders in the terms you have described.

Yours sincerely,

(Sqd.) Ernest Bevin.

Mr. Waldemar J. Gallman,

10583 PALESTINE It boring (Minutes.) Rofin to: Teligram sent to alkens

Next Paper.

10587

32003 F.O.P

4-6/400/47

1.10583

12 NOV

BRITISH EMBASSY,

ATHENS.

3rd November 1947.

Dear Department,

Please refer to our P/L No. 343, under cover of which we sent you a copy of a Note from the Greek Ministry for Foreign Affairs about instructions given to the Greek Consul-General at Istanbul not to grant Greek registration to the "Corina".

The Greeks have now informed us that the "Corina" is about to sail from Macin for Piraeus in order to register at the latter port. They say that she has on board a cargo of glass and some Greek nationals who wish to return to their country, and that they have therefore authorised her to fly the Greek flag. The Greek Note adds that instructions have been given to the Greek Consul-General at Istanbul and to the authorities in Greece to exercise the closest supervision on the "Corina" from the time she enters Turkish and Greek waters respectively.

We do not think we can quarrel with this action of the Greeks in view of the report in the M.I.5 fortnightly summary that the bunks on board the vessel have been dismantled and considering her present apparently legitimate voyage.

You will doubtless let us know if you receive any further information providing sufficient grounds for us to request the Greeks to refuse registration on arrival of the vessel at Piraeus.

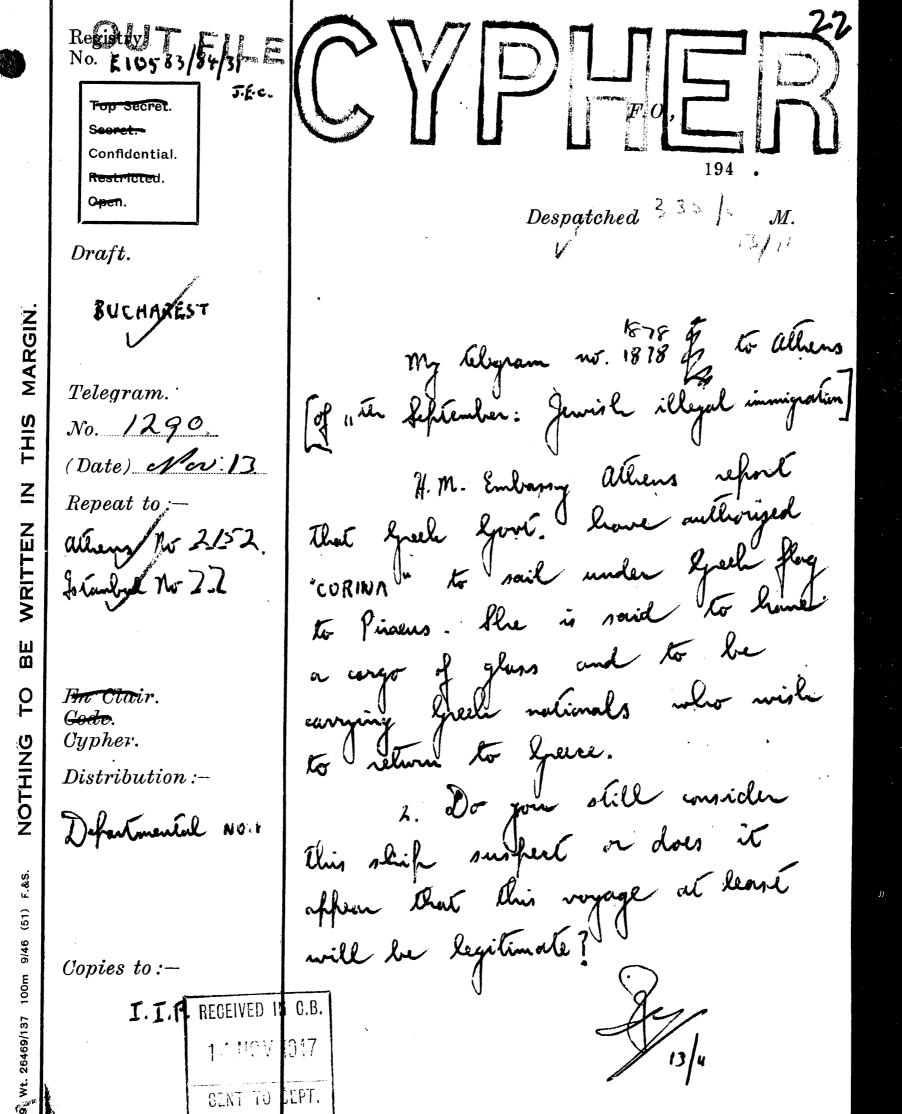
Yours ever,

CHANCERY

Eastern Department, Foreign Office, S.W.1.

FU 371/61852

OFFICE, LONDON



E10585/84/31

Confidential

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BUCHAREST

No. 1290 13th November, 1947. D. 3.35 p.m. 13th November, 1947

Repeated to Athens No. 2152. Istanbul No. 77

My telegram Ne. 1878 to Athens [of 11th September: Jewish illegal immigration].

His Majesty's Embassy Athens report that Greek Government have authorised "Cerina" to sail under Greek flag to Piracus. She is said to have a carge of glass and to be carrying Greek nationals who wish to return to Greece.

2. De you still consider this ship suspect or does it appear that this voyage at least will be legitimate?

0000

RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

E

PALESTINE

1. 10587

Registry \$ 10587/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. Il' Holman

Dated

Received
in Registry

1316

11,110V

Last Paper.

10583

References.

(Print.)

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8, 9.9.P. (on 2 10450/84/31)

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(Minutes.)

Jonmen Dept

1B, MV. 12

(Action completed.)

Next Paper.

E10605

Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.P.

| Reference: FO 371/61852

Cypher/OTP

12 DEVARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

D. 11.45 a.m. 11th Nevember, 1947 Mr. Helman Ne. 1316 R. 1.10 p.m. 11th Nevember, 1947 11th Nevember, 1947.

Repeated to Moscow Jerusalem Sefia Angera Middle Hast Office Caire C-in-C MELF Malta for C-in-C Mediterranean

CONFIDENTIAL

My telegram No. 1297.

Illegal Jewish emigration.

The Bucharest newspaper Argus of Nevember 6th publishes an announcement that Credit Minier Oil Company, a company of Savrempetrel group has received authority to supply "Pan Crescent" and "Pan York" with 40 car loads of fuel oil.

- 2. Paper says that International (sic) Red Cress made request for oil and that vessels have come to transport emigrants leaving Roumania.
- 3. Although there is still no considerable movement of Jews towards the Black Sea Coast, there are indications that departures will take place from Roumania.

Foreign Office please pass to Moscow, Jerusalem, Angera, M.E.O.-Guire (please pass to C-in-C MELF) and Malta for C-in-C Mediterranean as my telegrams Nes. 153, 65, 41, 24 and 12 respectively.

[Repeated to Mescow, Angera and B.M.E.O. Caire].

[Cepies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

[Copy sent to War Registry Admiralty for repetition to Malta for C-in-C Mediterranean].

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(Accomp

Registry | \$1008/84/51 **FROM** Report, Wallow alquer Dated120 Received 12/1/1 in Registry

1947

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Refer alguns (its 101 , 102 (E10497/84/81)

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prestrated attempt to enclose Religion Teach Emmyrant off fuy attille on the "Govanni" Maria or night of 5-6 Mov.

Last Paper.

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10) Kabat wo. 96 Kuris no/

(Action completed,)

Next Paper.

E 10647

(Minutes.)

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Draft

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Poyall means when dusid. William Polands JUSSLANCIT 21/15

32003 F.O.P

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COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

61852

British Consulate General,

ALGIERS.

10th November, 1947.

No. 120

IGGUS 13 NOV

Sir,

With reference to my telegrams No. 101 and 102 of the 7th November regarding the appearance of an unidentified vessel thought to have been the Italian schooner "Giovanni Maria" off Guyotville, some ten miles west of Algiers, during the night of the 5th - 6th November, I have the honour to furnish further details of this largely frustrated attempt to embark illegal Jewish immigrants for Palestine.

- A local fishing boat was nearly run down by this vessel, which was moving on her Diesel engine without sails or lights. The fishermen made for the nearest shore, a stretch of beach between Guyotville and Sidi Ferruch, where they noticed a fair number of people on the beach. They at first suspected smuggling and, leaving one man to watch their boat, two of them went to alarm the police at Guyotville who, unfortunately, only sent two or three gendarmes to the spot, where on their arrival they found four of the ship's boats already ferrying people out to the ship on their second trip. The gendarmes, finding themselves quite incapable of dealing with the situation in the presence of what had now become several hundred Jews on the beach, fired off a rifle as a signal for further reinforcements, upon which the vessel shortly afterwards disappeared out to sea, after having remained off-shore some three-quarters of an hour, from 20.15 to 2100 hours. The fishermen and the gendarmes described the vessel in question as being a two-masted vessel with a funnel with sails, if any, lowered, which does not correspond to the description issued of the three-masted "Giovanni Maria", but allowance must be made for their impressions being possibly not fully accurate owing to the darkness of that night.
- 3. It is estimated, that as the ship's boats were only of small size, each of them could not have taken more than an average of ten passengers on each of her two trips, which would mean that a maximum of eighty Jews could have thus been ferried on board.
- The Jews left behind on the beach were then rounded up by the gendarmes, who had been reinforced, and these were eventually brought back to Algiers next morning, 6th November. The Government General officially notified me that the number of Jews left behind amounted to 596 in all, including a considerable proportion of women, children and young men. Only 10 were from Algeria, having come from a place south of Oran; 39 were from Tunisia and no less than 547 from Morocco. They were mostly either stateless or with no proper identity papers available.

The Right Honourable

Ernest Bevin, M.P.,

etc., etc., etc.

/5. The

The Governor General told me in the course of a conversation on the following evening that it was his intention to deport these people back to Morocco or to Tunisia where they had come from. He had notified Paris that some of the ring-leaders, emulating the "Exodus II" incident, were threatening a hunger strike, in which case he proposed to use force to expel them if necessary. He had also complained bitterly to Paris about the laxity of Moroccan frontier control officials in letting Jews so easily over the frontier in such large numbers, which left a suspicion that they were only too glad to be rid of them and to dump them into Algeria. Few of these Jews were really residents of Morocco and it is believed that some stateless Jews from even so far away as Central Europe, having recently got into Morocco through Spain, were among those rounded up. These Jews had been housed in several camps of fifty to one hundred persons in the country outside Algiers and also in a Jewish school in Algiers itself, with the help of a mysterious Sionist organisation and with Sionist funds. A considerable number of women and children had also been found temporary accommodation among local Jewish families in and around Algiers as the result of a special secret appeal from local Jewish benevolent societies. The Governor General has sent for a prominent local Jewish doctor and repeated his previous warning (see my Despatch No. 110 of 4th October, 1947) that any further organised collection of Jews from outside for immigration to Palestine may inevitably lead to a clash with local Moslems who are beginning to feel bitter about such matters, in which case the Jews will have only themselves to blame if they arouse Arab hostility.

- An alert along the coast in connection with this vessel following a communication sent to him by me on the 4th November had been ordered by the Governor General and Navy coastguards and police were on watch. Under such circumstances it may appear strange that the concentration of nearly 700 Jews passed unnoticed. They, however, used perfect infiltration methods. Women and children were sent off in trucks in the afternoon as if going on an outing to the seaside and men were taken, mostly in private cars, after darkness and hidden among the scrub in the dunes and in a dry ravine (Oued Beni Messous).
- The illegal vessel only came in near the coast at around 2015 hours when complete darkness had set in and lay sufficiently off-shore so as to be barely visible from the beach. By the time the French naval patrol vessel "Sabre" had been sent out and reached the spot, the mystery vessel was well away and could not even be picked up by the warship's radar within its range of fifteen miles. The night was an extremely dark one, otherwise things might have been far different.
- 8. M. Yves Chataigneau, the Governor General and all higher French authorities have been most co-operative throughout this whole affair, which they have taken very seriously. I know that out good friend Vice Admiral Ronarc'h, K.B.E. passed two very disturbed nights on the 5th, the night of the incident and on the following night,

when he remained on the alert in case the ship attempted a fresh approach at some other point on the Algerian coast - of which there has since been no indication.

g. It was bad luck and disappointing to all concerned that all this keepness and watchfulness upon the part of French officials on our behalf was not completely rewarded. However, the fact of only having been able to embark some 80 out of 680 illegal immigrants must have been a very severe disappointment to the Sionist organisers, especially in view of further action now being taken to expel the rest. I feel that further friendly co-operation can be counted upon from the Algerian authorities and I have already expressed my thanks and appreciation personnally to M. Yves Chataigneau, the Governor General and to Vice Admiral Ronarc'h.

A copy of this despatch is being sent to His Majesty's Ambassador in Paris, to the Commander in Chief, Mediterranean, and to His Majesty's Consuls General at Rabat and Tunis.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

David hhis

MARGIN

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WRITTEN

BE

10

MV. 25

FILE Dec. In jour desfatch no. 120 of the about the allempt to MARIAS embord gemisk illegal immigrants from Algeria, you reported that you had alrady expressed your defineration of their prompt and effective cooperation authorities concerned.

Jam Se.

FURRIOR OF FICE. B.W. 1.

1st. December, 1947.

104 (E 10508/84/31)

CONFIDENTIAL

sir.

In your desputch No. 120 of the 10th November about the frustration of the "Glovensi Maria's" attempt to embarg Jewish Illegal implerents from algoris, you reported that you had already expressed your appreciation of their prompt and effective cooperation to the French suthorities concerned.

- I should be grateful if you would now convey to the Governor-General an official expression of His Majesty's Covernment's appreciation of the helpful attitude of the local authorities in this matter.
- I was sending copies of this despatch to His Majesty's Ambassalor in Paris and to His Majesty's Consuls-General at Rabas and Tunia.

I am.

bir. Your obedient pervent, (For the secretary of State)

(Sqd.) B.A.B. Bunows.

R. Derrell Wilson My., sto. etc. etc., algiors.

E 10668

Next Paper.

Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.P.

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN WEFFINON

Mr. Helman,
No.1339
13th Nevember, 1947.

D: 1.25 p.m. 13th Nevember, 1947

R: 2.15 p.m. 13th Nevember, 1947.

Following for Admiralty Commander in Chief Mediterranean Admiralty, Compal and N.O.I.C. Port Said from Naval Attaché Bucharest.

[Begins].

Your 111203A, Pan Yerk and Pan Crescent.

- 2. Crews. No further desertions have occurred since the 20 Italian subjects mentioned in Bucharest telegram No: 1159 of October 17th to Foreign Office repeated to Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean, It is not Jerusalem and Middle East Office, Cairo. It is not Jerusalem and Middle East Office, Cairo. It is not known whether these men have yet actually been replaced but it is probable, in view of the number of men now desirous of escaping from Roumania. Palestine telegram No:2070 of November 4th to Foreign Office also refers. Admiralty please pass relevant extracts to Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean and N.O.I.C. Port Said.
- in an York and about 1,000 additional bunks in Pan Crescent appears to be completed and no apparent work is now in progress in either ship. Repeat I still have no information as to what, if any, anti-boarding devices and internal obstructions are fitted. As devices and internal obstructions are fitted. As reported in Bucharest telegram No.1316 of November 11th to Foreign Office repeated to Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, Jerusalem and Middle East Office, Cairo Mediterranean, Jerusalem and Middle East Office, Cairo Mediterranean, Jerusalem and Middle East Office, Cairo (40 carloads) of fuel oil have probably now been made available for the two ships.
- A. Assembly of Immigrants. There are still no large collections of illegal immigrants at, or movements of Jews towards, Roumania Black Sea Ports but indications that the two ships will lead in Roumania are growing. Bucharest telegram No.1316 /0087/ Reumania are growing.

Fereign Office telegram Ne.1184 of October 24th to Sofia repeated Bucharest and Angera refers.

5. Admiralty please pass to other addressess.

[Ends] A A A A COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

| 1 | 5 | 6 | Reference: FO 371 61852

CONFIDENTIAL.

33 N

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* (NOTE: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

151158A/November

From: C. in C. Med.

Date: 15.11.47

Recd: 1213

GENERALEX

To: Admiralty D.N.I.
Info: N.O.I.C. Port Said

IMPORTANT.

Following repeats Compal's 141903B begins:

Reuter Jorusalem has informed N.L.O. Palestine that PAN YORK and PAN CRESCENT are due to pass through the Bosphorus this weekend.

- 2. This report comes from a reliable source in Istanbul.
- 3. There is no means of assessing the reliability of this report.

151158A

Advance copy to D.C. sent 1600/15th November.

lst Lord lst S.L. (3) V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.	D.N.I. (5) D. of P. (2) D. of P. (Q) C.N.I. (2)
U.S.S. O.D. (8) D.C. (2) M. (8)	File 141903 Compa

Reference:

371/61852

10670

32003 F.O.P

35 F

reign Office, London, S.W.l.



With the Compliments

of the

BRITISH MINISTER

at

PANAMA

E1028/84/,

Ref. Panama Despatch No. 84 of October 29th 1947.

PANAMA

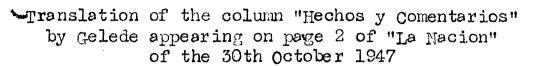
31st October

194 7

FO 371/61852

Reference

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May Heaven judge him until my commentary in respect of the letter from this 'comrade' appears tomorrow.

My dear celede,

Panama, 29th October 1947

It was only today that somebody showed me your little column in which you addressed a letter to me asking me to deny or belittle many commentaries and much gossip which have been circulating about me.

The fact that I should be talked about does not surprise me and should not surprise you. Here in our country they talk about everything in the world, even about one's mother. And about you, my poor friend, if you only knew what they say and what I have been told since my arrival....!

Tittle tattle is one of our national institutions and it is the duty of the press and of the newspaper men to combat that mental disease and not exploit it. For that reason, I could well keep quiet, and experienced people have so advised me but I do not wish to because no Diaz, an exalted family and the epitome of honour, is more honourable than the Porras. History is there to prove it.

They say I am rich. I wish I was. I would sing another tune. I have made my economies even though you do not believe it. My salary of 1400 Balboas plus 300 which I get from two little houses which I have has so permitted me since I am a man without vices. But it is not by this alone. (that he has saved). Today in Europe it is possible to make current exchange operations which give an ample profit if one possesses dollars. This you can be told by honourable people who have recently been in the old world such as Don J.J. Vallarino, Roberto Heurtematte, Catalino Arrocha G., Romualdo Mora, Mariano Hernandez, etc., etc. This is the reason why there are subordinate employees who can live (in the old world) with a salary of less than \$200 (per month).

The Legation in London has never remained without a Head. Numerous efficient employees attended when I was absent. Counsellor Morales, Secretary Icaza, Attachés Ramirez and Marquez. I was Minister in France and creat Britain and I had to tend both Missions which I did with great dignity placing the name of my country on a very high level. For this I have received many congratulations, not only from the President of the Republic Don Enrique Jimenez, Dr. Alfaro and Dr. Filos, but also from world-famous people, all of which will be published in my book "Mission in Great Britain". I have defended the name of my country even on the field of honour. The rights and interests of Panama I have upheld in the Chanceries to which I was accredited without weaknesses or complexes, gaining for myself respect from all. I have harvested for my country triumphs which are still resounding such as the exclusion from U.N.O. of Franco, and the putting of the question of racial discrimination in the Canal Zone before international organization sations. I have been chosen as an arbiter on international maritime conflicts. I published in France and Great Britain, without the help of anyone, an illustrated bulletin in order to destroy the black legend which hangs over our country, and for which many of our newspaper men are responsible through their lack of integrity. And for all this work what do I receive? Calumnies and slander. I went to the Argentine on a legitimate vacation. I understand that you also went there accompanied by Don Eusebio Conzalez. I went there to publish, very advantageously, three books - products of my literary endeavours. There I met many honourable Panamanians who can advise you as to my conduct. Amongst them were Don Julio Aleman, Don Roberto Aleman, Don Simon Eliet, Dr. Herrera, Don Simon Vega, and your brother Pico etc., etc. It is easy to find out via the Argentine Government if my conduct was such as hinted at by you.

My trip to Greece was motivated by two reasons. Firstly my desire to learn, and secondly, to investigate all about the "pirate"



ships with the Panamanian flag since the majority of these are Greek.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs sent me the following cable:-

"069 Panama 35 30 PXCHR 707P
Panalega London. Reference yours of the 8th the Government applauds the defence of the Republic against impudent attacks and authorises you to investigate the reasons for the start of this campaign stop Government concerned about the situation of ships under Panamanian flag and is prepared to take the immediate measures necessary.

Foreign Relations"

The trip of four hours duration in an aeroplane cost me \$120 and only lasted a week-end. Other Ministers and Ambassadors are constantly travelling without their journies provoking commentaries. At this moment the distinguished Panamanian Ambassador in Washington is in Europe and he has toured Spain, France, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium and Great Britain and that, amongst honourable people who are not embittered nor poisoned, seems nothing abnormal. I wish all our politicians would travel and study. The country would gain by it.

Your friend who admires you,

DEMETRIO PORRAS.

10070

1947

PALESTINE

Registry \= 10670/84 admirally

DatedReceived in Registry Paya ch letter from J. B. R. Dodds & and Evershed in 0.9866/44 ch 12, Nov dispusses provincia and elecartere

Last Paper.

10668

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

This was agreed by the Working

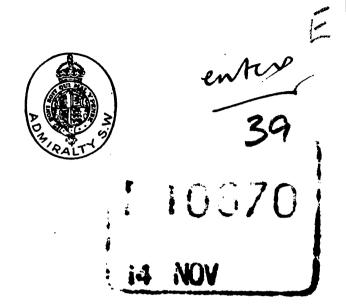
(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

E10680

32003 F.O.P



With the compliments of Mr. G.C.B. Dodds.

12th November, 1947

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Military Branch, Admiralty, S.W. 1.

40

M. 059866/47

12th November, 1947

My dear Svershed,

ould you please refer to 0.0.3. 1158/15/10/7 of the 15th October in which the Chiefs of Staff agreed that illegal immigrants could be returned to Bulgarian and Roumanian ports without naval escort provided that an additional ship of some kind was present for the purposes of rescue.

The Admiralty feel that, if this is acceptable for refoulement to the Black Sea, it should be possible to modify arrangements for providing naval escorts for refoulement to other ports and for transhipment to Oyprus and other destinations. We have in mind that, if one of the ex-corvettes were used as a rescue ship, its presence would remove the necessity for providing more that and wership; this would be a great saving in fuel and would allow the Mediterranean Fleet to get on with some of its very necessary training. Circumstances might arise, of course, in which all the corvettes, as well as the cargo ships, would be required for actually carrying immigrants at the same time and the decision to use ex-corvettes for escorting would also depend to some extent on whether other illegal immigrant ships were expected while the refoulement was taking place. Discretion would be given to the Commander-in-Chief in association with the military authorities and P.S. T.O. Mediterranean to decide whether, in a particular case, the number of naval escorts could be reduced in this way. e feel that there is scope for some economy and that such discretion ought to be given.

/I

Commander W. Evershed, D.S.O., R.N.,

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1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference: 1 371 61852



I suggest that this matter might be discussed at the next meeting of the Working Party on Illegal Immigration and I am accordingly sending copies to the other members.

Yours ever,

G. C. B. DODDS

371/61852

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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E10690/84/31 E10692

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OFFICE, LONDON	OFFIC	_	COPYRIGHT OF THE PUBLIC RECORD			r

PALESTINE

10696 15 NOV

Registry \ \(\int \) \(\text{10696/84/31} \)

TELEGRAM FROM

Les V. Wollet

Royal

DatedReceived

in Registry

2/4/

14 Hou

Repositionent of Teas to Klory, Repent to 61 2408 [610692 [84/31] Nac nonexpect any co-geration from Habien fait for believing that there is no likelihood Hober fact gracing to eicher allernature under ref

Last Paper.

10692

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

9, 9.9./

Lov 21.

(Action completed.)

(Minutes.) carrying c.o. have but the "RAFAELUCCIA". (See, however, studied addy. Cels.) Our Religion to Rome was, in any case, little more than a formality reply finally disposes

who expressed I considerable stuffinge de the ford. 2 that our Embarry had not ever asked the Halians to detain this ship, which has been on the suspect list for some line. They suggested that the Embarry Ishould be asked for " an explanation and that we should infrens upm the Embassy the infortance of Caling all strongly suspect ships, whether

Next Paper

(Index

10730

to be imminent. Our Rome, in common miller other pools, have slanding instructions to take action on Their own invitative in the case of any suspect Ele vessel (om Elegram to Paus not 714 in £3756). There is evidently a renewal of activity in Jewish illegal immigration from Half and It is important that we should make every effort to cheele it. I submit draft alegram to Rome. Ventur Defr. (Halian Derkyn), trist 1 Cant understand Win the Embassy did not assume Italians & detain her Bs Bent MV. 19 relieur. BASIS 151800 160946 JB Am. 22 2. P.P. 70 Minute, M. Beith 19/11 +13 Apor-27

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CYPHER/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO:2

FROM ROME TO FOREIGN OFFICE

15 NOV

Sir V Mallet No: 2141 14th November 1947 D. 11.59 p.m. 14th Nevember 1947

R. 12.35 a.m. 15th Nevember 1947

Repeated to Jerusalem

IMMEDIATE CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No: 2408. 210693 /80/11

which remain entirely valid today we do not believe we can expect the Italian Government to offer any co-operation whatsoever in returning Jews to Italy. In our view they would not (repeat no) agree to allow ships carrying such Jews to be brought into an Italian port let alone to using force to get them to disembark. The precedent [grp:undec:] "Execus" at Marseilles has if anything weakened our position in this respect with the Italians.

- because we cannot yet prove irrefutably to the Italians that the Jews in question embarked in Italy. Moreover since our experts did not expect the R.A.F. to pick up Jews in the area in question the Italian authorities were not warned by us of this intention and were not requested to detain the ship at Venice.

 RAFAELUCCIA
- 3. We do not think therefore that there is any real likelihood of the Italian Government, agreeing to either of the alternatives referred to in your paragraph 2.

444.

FO 371/61852

THE PUBLIC

RECORD OFFICE,

THE REPORT OF THE PARTY OF THE

RESTRICTED.

WARNING.—This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

151800B/November.

From COMPAL.

Date 15.11.47.

Recd. 1732.

GENERALEX

Addressed C. in C. Med. Admiralty. S.O.I.L.B.M. Info.

IMMEDIATE

Sitrep number One. Suspect number 287 intercepted by VENUS after eir search. Position 33 degs. 45 mins. North, 33 degs. 50 mins. East at 1800B.

151800B

Advance copies sent R.C. D.C.

lst Lord. lst S.L.(3). V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S. U.S.S. O.D.(8). D.C.(2). M.(8). D.N.I.(5).

D. of P.(2). D. of P.(Q). C.N.I.(2).

1047

RESTRICTED

IN

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160946B/November

From COMPAL

Date 16.11.47.

Rec'd 0932

GENERALEX

Addressed C. in C. Med., Info. Admiralby, SOILEM,

IMMEDIATE

Sitreb number two. Small vessel named IMMIGRATION discovered Beached off Naharya. Details follow.

2. Ship reported in my 151800B know proceeding (Howa K Hhify)

160946B

/ As received (?) Haifa.

lst Lord lst S L V C N S V C N S U C S S O D C (8) D C (8) D Of P (2) D Of I C R C

A/C DC RC

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161052B Nov

Date 16.11.47

Rec'd. 1140

From COMPAL

GENERALEX

Addressed C in C Med.
info Admiralty SOI LEM

IMPORTANT.

Situation report number 3. My 160945B para 1 Proper name of ship /ALTYA/ 100 to 150 tons, beached 400 yards from the shore, wether flat calm. Army boarded and found vessel deserted.

161052B

/ as rec'd.

Advance copy sent R.C.D.C.

lst Lord
lst S L (3)
V C N S
A C N S
U S S
O D (8)
D C (2)
M (8)
D N I (5)
D of P (2)
C N I (2)
R C

JVK

FO 371/6185

RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

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161228B November

Date 16.11.47

Rec'd. 1135

From COMPAL

GENERALEX

Addressed C in C Med info Admiralty SOLLEM

IMMEDIATE

Sitrep Number 4. Suspect ship Number 287 (RAQFELUCCE repetition RAFFELUCCE) boarded off Carmel at 1217B today 16th November, no opposition encountered. Ship stopped when ordered. Now proceeding to Haifa under own power.

161228A

Advance copy sent R C D C

1st Lord
1st S L (3)
V C N S
A C N S
U S S
O D (8)
D C (2)
M (8)
D N I (5)
D of P (2)
C N I (2)
R C

24

RESTRICTED.

WARNING.—This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

161736B/November.

Date 16.11.47.

Reca. 1755.

GENERALEX

Addressed C. in C. Med. Info. Admiralty. S.O.I.L.E.M. Info.

IIMEDIATE .

From COMPAL.

Embarkation into transport RUNNYMEDE PARK Total 781 repetition 781 no incidents. completed.

Sitrep Number 5. 2,

161736B

Advance copies sent D.C. - R.C.

M.(8). D.N.I.(5). D. of P.(2). D. of P.(Q). lst Lord. lst S.L.(3). V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S. C.N.I.(2).U.S.S. R.C. $0.D.(\xi).$ D.C.(2).

1c22

RETURN OF JEWISH ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TO PALESTINE TO THEIR COUNTRY OF EMBARKATION.

A paper on this subject was prepared by the Official Committee on Illegal Immigration, dated October 10th, and submitted to Ministers with a review of the general position. Both papers will be found in E95/6/48/G. They were considered at a meeting in the

E9546/48/G. They were considered at a meeting in the Secretary of State's room on October 15th at which the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies and officials from the Foreign Office and Colonial Office were present.

This meeting, which in the event was devoted principally to the question of where to intern illegal immigrants and whether the strain on the Cyprus Camps could be reduced by allocating the entire monthly legal quota to them, did not go into the question of "refoulement". No decision was taken whether to continue the policy in regard to Italy or whether to abandon it altogether. The Official Committee on Palestine has now inherited the work of the Committee on Illegal Immigration, and the Chairman has asked, in view of the fact that a decision on this point is outstanding, whether the Foreign Office, as the department primarily concerned, could secure a ministerial decision.

The position is briefly as follows. Since the Foreign Office have ruled out the possibility of sending a further batch of illegal immigrants to Germany, should "refoulement" action go wrong, such action cannot be taken without the full agreement of the Government of the country to which the Jews are being returned that all the necessary steps, including the use of force, should be taken to disembark the Jews. The Committee held that this rules out France (on our experience of the "President Warfield"). They also excluded the possibility of "refoulement" to Bulgaria or Rumania, for obvious political reasons. This leaves only Italy amongst the likely sources of serious illegal immigration.

A decision is now sought as to whether, in the event of our having clear proof either by shadowing or by incontrovertible evidence from the snore of the place of embarkation of a given party of illegal immigrants, we should press the Italian Government very strongly to take them back. If we do decide to adopt this policy we shall clearly have to push it hard as nothing would be more damaging than representations which we failed to press: failure of such representations would encourage the traffic and annoy the Italians without corresponding advantage. On the other hand, strong representations would lead to a serious controversy with the Italian Government, who would obviously resent having to take the Jews back.

A potential case for "refoulement" to Italy arose recently when the "Rafael Luccia" reached Palestine waters carrying Jewish illegal immigrants, believed to have embarked in Italy. Our evidence regarding the embarkation was in any case insufficient to justify our approaching the Italian Government, but H.M.Embassy in Rome expressed the opinion that, even had

the evidence/

the evidence been sufficient the Italian Government would have refused to take back these or any other Jews. Their natural reluctance to agree to such action has been increased by the French refusal to force the "President Warfield" passengers to disembark.

I would set out the pros and cons as follows: -

Pros: - We are likely to be hard pressed by illegal immigration during the last months of our mandate. The Cyprus camps may well be filled to capacity and the return of one or two thousand Jews to Italy would be a great practical help as well as a strong deterrent to the traffic.

Cons: - At a moment when we are doing our best to improve our relations with Italy (vide the Sforza visit), we would risk a serious incident with Italy. The Italian Government are almost certain to refuse our request, and, if they maintained this refusal, it is agreed that we could not carry through the policy.

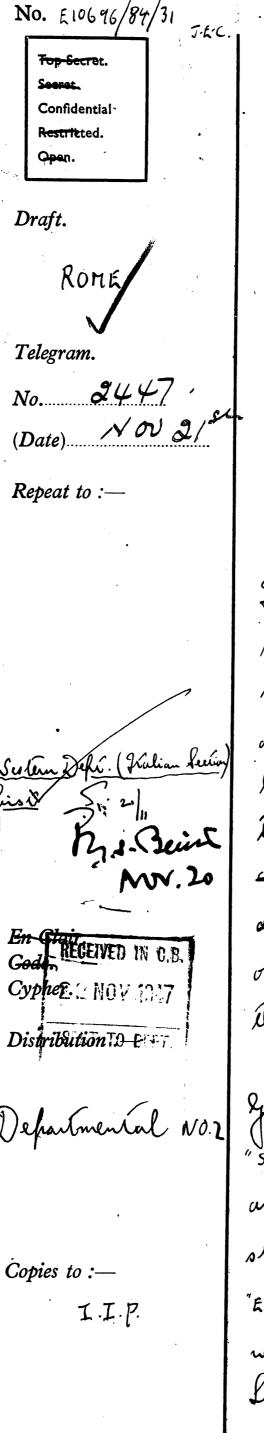
We should, therefore, have raised a bone of contention without effective result. As we are not proposed to take much actor elembers we Should appear to be disciminating.

N.BAs it is almost impossible to secure incontrovertible evidence of embarkation without shadowing by H.M. ships, the adoption of a policy of "refoulement" would greatly increase the strain on the resources of the Mediterranean fleet.

J.G.S.Beith.

19th November, 1947.

8 6 Reference: **F**O 371 /61859



Registry

November: Jewish illegal immigration surfrised to learn that the "RAFAELUCCIA" Except in very all I suspect shipping in Their forts as a matter of RONDINE" "VIOHETTE"

t. 43697-140 100m 3/47 G.S.S

50-

E.10696/84/31.

51

Confidential.

CYPHER/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO.2.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO ROME

No. 2.447.

D: 4.00 p.m. 21st November, 1947.

21st November, 1947.

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 2,141 [of 14th November: Jewish illegal immigration].

not requested to detain the "Rafaeluccia" at Venice, irrespective of whether or not an attempted embarkation in that area was believed to be imminent. Except in very special circumstances, Italian Government should be pressed to take measures to detain or delay all strongly suspect shipping in their ports as a matter of routine.

2. Please confirm that Italian Government have been asked to detain "San Leonardo", "St.Moritz", "Rondine" and "Yilderan", all of which are strongly suspect, and warned about "Guerazzi", "Efisia Serra", "Violette" and "Fortuna", which are also included in Fortnightly List of Suspect Shipping.

FO 371/61852

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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E10730/84/31

Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.P.

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

Cypher/OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION.

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Lord Inverchapel.
No. 6452.

D. 11.08 p.m. 15th November 1947.

15th November 1947. R. 6.00 a.m. 16th November 1947. Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation New York, Jerusalem.

IMPORTANT.
SECRET.

1.10743

My immediately preceding telegram.

Jewish Illegal Immigration.

17 NOV

This represents a considerable advance on previous United States policy of silence though you will note the phrase in paragraph 4 about ensuring that the applicable laws of the United States are fully enforced. As a result of our own investigations into the legal position we have good reason to believe that the applicable laws are somewhat broken reeds, in that there is little which covers this kind of situation.

2. Mr. Marshall's assault on certain Jewish leaders seems a more fruitful line of approach and it is also encouraging that thorough investigations are now being made both into the status of the three ships and into the question of tax exemption. We were told in confidence in the State Department that they had made the draft reply to me as strong as they dared but that Mr. Marshall had insisted on making it a good deal stronger. Present indications are that he means business.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 100.

[Copies sent to Telegram Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

0:0

NOV

55

E10759

Next Paper.

55A

8) Brig. Calthorpe, W.O.
Lt. Col. Charteris, W.O.
Col. Robertson, N.1.5.
R. Garrey, Ryn. 17.
Lt. Col. Oldfield "
Gen. Pollock, N.E.1.5.
(ander E 10696/84/31)
15 how.

rejerence: FO 371/61852

.

Cypher/OTP

10744DEPARTMENTAL No: 2

FROM WASHINGTON TO FORE GN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel No: 6453

D. 12.20.p.m.16th November 1947

15th Nevember 1947

R. 7.5. p.m. 16th Nevember 1947

Repeated to Panama New York (Consul General) Saving

IMPORTANT

Confidential.

Your telegram 11463; Jewish Illegal Immigration.

Latest United States information on present status of the Colonel F.C. Johnson is contained in paragraph 2 of my telegram 6451.

2. Position as regards specific questions asked in paragraph 1 of your telegram under reference appear to be as follows;

Maritime Commission that United States law as such does not (repeat not) prohibit clearance of undocumented vessels but that any vessel sailing for a foreign port is required to obtain Customs clearance. She can therefore sail without clearance to another United States port. Customs collectors are required only to satisfy themselves as to ownership before giving clearance for a foreign port. Possibility therefore exists that Customs Officers might mistakenly clear ship on insufficient documentation or that ship might clear ostensibly for another United States port and then sail elsewhere. In the present case coast guard watch on ship should prevent sailing in either manner.

3. Ship might possibly sail under United States flag since present repairs will probably render her fully seaworthy but recourse may still be had to measures referred to in paragraph 2 of my telegram No: 6123. It is, however, very doubtful whether she would embark illegal immigrants while under United States flag. Alternative would be an application for transfer to a foreign flag either in a United States or in a foreign port. In both cases State Department could probably be persuaded to employ delaying tactics but it would be better from our point of view for application for transfer to be made here where we now have the advantage of

increased



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1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference:

A Reference:

371 61852

increased cooperation from the State Department and F.B.I. on the spot and where ship is farther removed from the danger zone.

4. I wrote on November 10th to Panamanian Ambassador to express your serious concern at the activities of three ships, with particular reference to the fact that Pan Crescent and Pan York are flying the Panamanian flag and that the Colonel F.C. Johnson may be applying for Panamanian registry. A later enquiry of the Panamanian Embassy to secure a progress report and to put the question raised in your telegram No: 11745, elicited the fact that they had decided that they must refer the question to the Panamanian Government. They were unable to give any estimate of the prespects of cancelling the registration of Pan Crescent and Pan York but said that they would be prepared to refer this also to Panama if I wrote again. As it appears that Panamanian Embassy are not in this instance prepared to act without instructions and if Panamanian Consul General in New Yerk, with when His Majesty's Consul General is seeking to get into touch, proves to be equally cautious I fear it will be necessary to pursue the matter in Panama.

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Group. 50

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transferred to PRO Safe Room*

E10759/84/31

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PALESTINE

18 NOV

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References.

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The last paragraph of this letter which crossed owns in E 4577, may be of interest to

(Action completed.)

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Next Paper.

E 10804

32003 F.O.P

Copy for Mr. Beith, Foreign Office.

enter 59A

SECRET

10/96h November, 1947.

Our Ref.M.31181/2 Your Ref.M.059606/46

18 NOV

Dear Dodds,

I refer to your letter of the 11th October to Beith on the question of the passage of corvette-type merchant ships through the Dardanelles.

The Ministry's view is that this is primarily a matter for the Foreign Office, but I must add it is thought there would be no objection to the passage of these ships acting as Rescue Ships to accompany transports proceeding to the Black Sea on refoulement duties any more than there would be objection to the passage of the transports themselves (if this is permissible).

I should mention that it has been pointed out that a similar point arose and had to be cleared in connection with the blockade running trip into Sweden in 1943/4, where passages which were of motor torpedo type were registered as merchant ships, crewed with Merchant Navy crews and operated to Sweden without any contravention of the Hague Rules. I appreciate that this is of academic the Hague Rules. I appreciate that this is of academic interest only as the present indications are that it is interest only as the present indications are that it is very unlikely there will be a refoulement to a Black Sea port.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Beith.

Yours sincerely,

G. C. B. Dodds, Esq.,
Military Branch,
Admiralty, S.W.1.

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[10804 60

PALESTINE

18 40V

Registry **E10804/84/31**Number **E10804/84/31** TELEGRAM FROM
LINERELAND Washington DatedReceived in Registry

Last Paper.

10790.

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

1. 9. P. on E10772/ Nov 2/48/31

Tel) Washington 11965 19 hov. Rptd. Runama 225as.]

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Next Paper

E (0811

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M.I.5 have nothing against anyone

Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.P.

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	Top Secret. Secret. Confidential. Restricted. Open	P.O., 194 Despatched M.
	Draft.	La Clain
MARGIN.	Washington Telegram.	your Celegram no. 6473 of 17 te november: Jewish illegal
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BE		19/11
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Reference: TO

371/61852

662

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel No. 6473

D. 10.36 p.m. 17th November 1947 R. 8.30 a.m. 18th November 1947

17th November 1947

Repeated to Panama (Saving)

1.10004

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 11866.

118 NOV

Jewish illegal immigration.

Near Eastern Division of State Department have referred to us a further application for the transfer of a ship to Panamanian registry. This application is in respect of an LST [sic] and was made by a Panamanian Corporation named Barbot Inc. The stockholders are a Roumanian named Balkani, a Cuban named Butez and a Swiss named Oscar Gnunder. The ship is intended for dry cargo and will be used for 80 per cent of the time on the South America-Mexico-Cuba run, and for 10 per cent on a run between American ports and ports in Italy. The remaining 10 per cent in unspecified.

2. State Department will provide any further details which they can obtain but have again asked whether we have any objection. I should be grateful for your views as soon as possible.

CCC



OUT FILE 63

E10804/84/31 Restricted En Clair

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO WASHINGTON

No. 11965 19th November, 1947. D. 11.15 p.m. 19th November, 1947

Repeated to Panama No. 22 Saving

Your telegram No. 6173 [of 17th November. Jewish illegal immigration].

No objection.

FFFF

THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON 61852

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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Department of origin under Section 3 (4)

of the Public Records Act, 1958

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E 10328

Cypher/OTP.

19 NOV

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations).

No. 5442.

D. 6.04 p.m. 18th November 1947.

18th November 1947.

R. 11.22 p.m. 18th November 1947.

Repeated to: Washington, Jerusalem, Bucharest.

IMMEDIATE.

Nahum Gould told the Minister of State today confidentially that the illegal immigration situation was now generally under control. He assured him firmly that the ships at Constanca would not sail.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem and Bucharest as my telegrams Nos. 201 and 5.

[Copies sent to Bucharest and to Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem.]

W:W:W:W:W



Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 3459

D. 4.51 p.m. 19th Nevember, 1947

19th Nevember, 1947

R. 10.25 p.m. 19th Nevember, 1947

IMMEDIATE

My telegrams Nes. 3442 and 5444.

Name should read Nahum Goldmann.

E 10914

68

1947

PALESTINE

21 OV

Registry Number #10914/84/31 FROM

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Dated

18, 1100

Received in Registry

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10928

Pan bereal and Pan york

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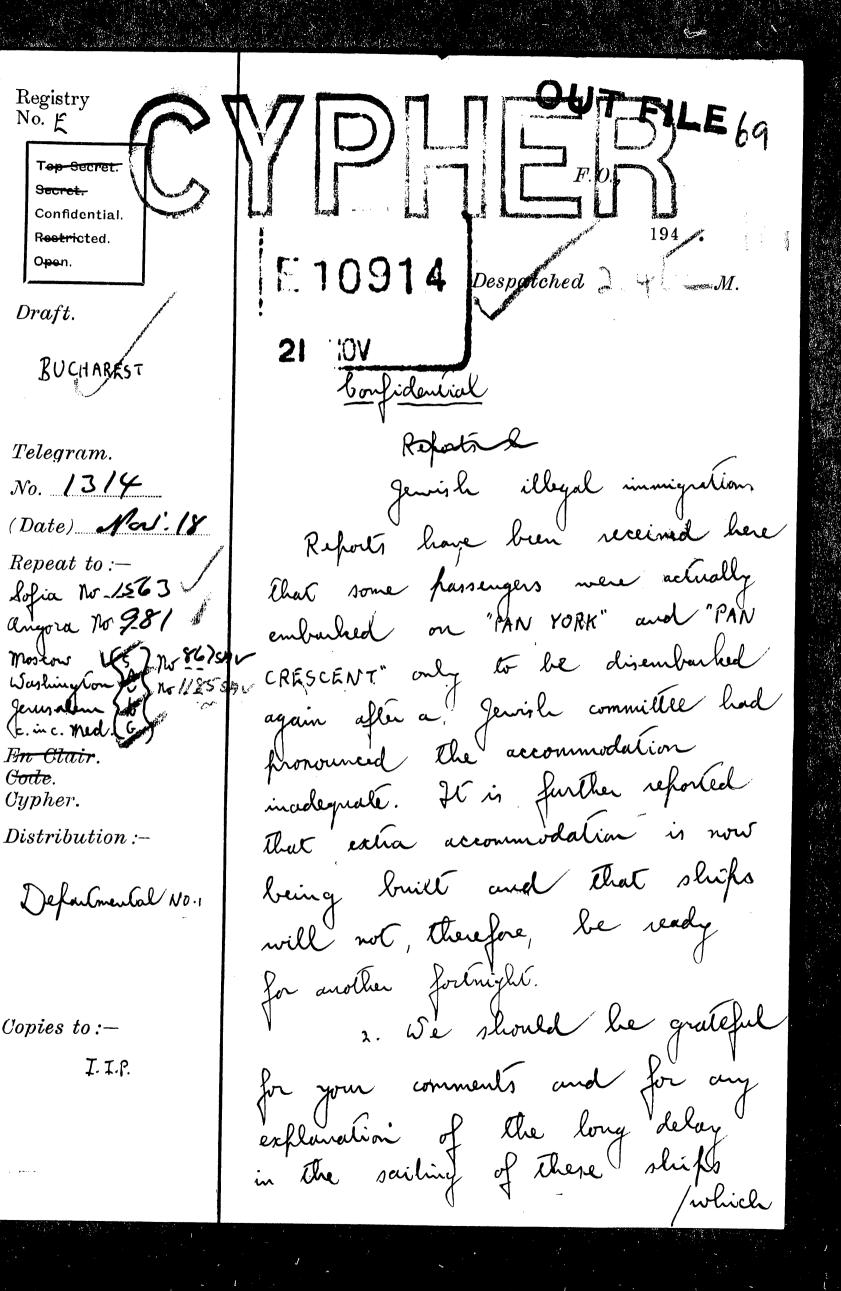
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(Minutes.)

In P.P. BNA ANKARA 191127 19/1,

22/4

32003 F.O.P



Registry No. £

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which you may be able to suggest.

18/11

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

FO 371/61852

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Confidential

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No: 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BUCHAREST

No: 1314

18th November 1947

D. 2.45.a.m.19th November 1947

Repeated to Sofia

No: 1563 No: 981

Angora

No: 867 Saving

Moscow

Washington No: 1185 Saving

Jerusalem Saving

Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean Saving

CONFIDENTIAL

Jewish illegal immigration.

Reports have been received here that some passengers were actually embarked on "Pan York" and "Pan Crescent" only to be disembarked again after a Jewish Committee had pronounced the accommodation inadequate. It is further reported that extra accommodation is now being built and that ships will not, therefore, be ready for another fortnight.

2. We should be grateful for your comments and for any explanation of the long delay in the sailing of these ships which you may be able to suggest.

X:X:X:

THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

SECRET

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad: "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

B.N.A. Ankara.

From.

21 NOV 1947

191127B/November.

19. 11. 47.

Date.

1138. Reca.

NAVAL SHORE CYPHER O.T.P.

Admiralty (for L.N.I.) Addressed. S.O. (I) Levant Eastern Med. C. in C. Med. Info.

Associated Tress reports from Istanbul dated November 18th states that two large re-designed refugee ships the PAN CRESCENT and PAN YORK at Constanza had been loaded with 14000 persons for Talestine they were ready to sail when boarded by Jewish Commission and ordered discharge pending further alterations which are expected to delay 2 weeks. Reported snips are being painted white.

This report is substantially confirmed by Master Turkish Ship CANKAYA recently arrived from Constanza.

Admiralty please pass Port Said Malta. .(3)

191127B.

L.C. L.N.I. at 1610/19 Advance Copy Sent.

lst Lord 1st S L (3) VCNS ACNS USS (8) CO D Q (2) E (3) DNI (5)
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of the Public Records Act, 1958

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reference: FO 371



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PALESTINE

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E 10944

Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.P.

371/61852

21 NOV

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM WASHINGTON TO SAN JOSE

Lord Inverchapel

D. 9.55 p.m. 20th November, 1947

No. 3

20th November, 1947. R. 3.01 a.m. 21st November, 1947

Repeated to FOREIGN OFFICE NO. 6548

IMMEDIATE CONFIDENTIAL

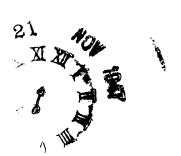
Telegram No. 6547 to Foreign Office.

We heard in August that sea going tug Gloria (Ex ATR-7) of 300 GRT was in Charleston, that Honduran registry was being sought and that a Honduran Company called Athens Shipping and Salvage Company was to be founded to operate ship to Southern Europe.

- 2. Foreign Office have recently informed us that she left for Marseilles but returned to Charleston with engine trouble on November 4th. They added that ship had been sold to a Greek named Efthimes Athanasiou who is known to have connexions with persons engaged in illegal immigration traffic into Palestine. There were therefore good reasons to suspect ker. State Department inform us that sale to him took place in July.
- 3. Latest developments are contained in my immediately [? gp. emitted ? preceding] telegram No. 6547 to Fereign Office.

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to San Jose as my telegram No. 3.

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